

BRIDGE JOINT SEALING SYSTEM

Effective: May 1, 2001

Revised: January 1, 2002

Description. This work shall consist of furnishing and installing an expansion or fixed joint system as shown on the plans and as specified herein. The joint system shall be comprised of either steel locking edge rails or plates, with studs and a preformed elastomeric seal. Unless noted otherwise, the Contractor shall have the option of choosing from the preformed elastomeric compression or strip seal joint systems shown on the plans.

Materials:

- (a) Steel Locking Edge Rails for the Preformed Elastomeric Strip Seal System. The steel locking edge rails shall be either a one-piece extrusion (rolled section) or a combination of extruded and stock plate, shop welded according to Section 505. All steel shall be AASHTO M270, Grade 250 (Grade 36) minimum. The locking portion of the steel edge rail shall be extruded, with a cavity, properly shaped to allow the insertion of the strip seal gland and the development of a mechanical interlock. The top edge of the steel edge rails shall not contain any horizontal projections.
- (b) Steel Plates for the Preformed Elastomeric Compression Seal System. The plates and bars or other structural shapes provided as edge reinforcement at joints, between adjacent spans, shall be accurately fabricated in the shop to conform to the section of the concrete floor or sidewalk. The fabrication shall conform to Section 505. The plates shall be held securely in the correct position during the placing of the concrete.
- (c) Anchor Studs. The steel locking edge rails or plates shall contain anchor studs and/or anchor plates of the size shown on the plans for the purpose of firmly anchoring the expansion joint system in either portland cement concrete or polymer concrete, depending on the application. The anchor studs shall be according to Article 1006.32 and shall be installed in the shop prior to painting or galvanizing.
- (d) Preformed Elastomeric Compression Seals. The Preformed Elastomeric compression seal shall be according to AASHTO M220. The compression seal shall be of the size and shape shown on the plans.
- (e) Preformed Elastomeric Strip Seal. The elastomeric gland shall meet the physical requirements of ASTM D5973. The gland material shall have a shallow "v" profile and shall contain "locking ears" that, when inserted in the steel locking edge rails, forms a mechanical interlock. The elastomeric gland shall be of an appropriate size to accommodate the rated movement specified on the plans.
- (f) Adhesive/Lubricant. The adhesive/lubricant shall comply with the requirements of ASTM D4070.

Construction:

- (a) Steel Plates or locking edge rails. After fabrication the steel plates or locking edge rails shall be given one shop coat of the paint specified for structural steel. The steel components may be hot dip galvanized according to AASHTO M111 and ASTM A385 in lieu of shop painting at the manufacturer's option. The steel components of the joint system shall be properly aligned and set prior to pouring the anchorage material. For expansion joints, the joint opening shall be adjusted according to the temperature at the time of placing so that the specified opening will be secured at a temperature of 10 °C (50 °F).

The joint opening for each 10 m (100 ft.) of bridge between the nearest fixed bearings each way from the joint shall be reduced 1 mm (1/8 in.) from the amount specified, for each 8 °C (15 °F) the temperature at the time of placing exceeds 10 °C (50 °F) and increased 1 mm (1/8 in.) from the amount specified, for each 8 °C (15 °F) the temperature at the time of placing is below 10 °C (50 °F).

- (b) Preformed Elastomeric Strip Seal. Once the anchoring material has fully cured according to specifications, preparation for the placement of the gland can begin.

- (1) Surface Preparation. The cavity portion of the locking edge rails must be cleaned of all foreign material prior to placement of the strip seal. Surface rusting shall be removed and any bare steel touched up according to Article 506.05. The cavity shall be cleaned of debris using compressed air with a minimum pressure of 620 kPa (90 psi). The air compressor shall be equipped with traps to prevent the inclusion of water and/or oil in the air line. Any oil left on the surface of the steel extrusion at this stage shall be removed using a solvent recommended by the strip seal manufacturer. Once the surface preparation has been completed, the steel extrusion cavities must be kept clean and dry until the strip seal is placed.

- (2) Placement of Elastomeric Strip Seal. The placement of the strip seal will only be permitted when the steel locking edge rail cavities are in a clean and dry state and the ambient air and steel substrate temperature are above the minimum temperature recommended by the strip seal manufacturer. Prior to inserting the strip seal in the steel retainer cavities, the "locking ears" portion of the seal shall be coated with the approved adhesive/lubricant. Only about 1.5 m (5 ft) of gland should be coated at a time to prevent the lubricant/adhesive from drying prior to insertion into the cavities of the steel locking edge rails. After each section is coated, the coated portion of the seal should be inserted in the steel locking edge rail cavities using tools and procedures recommended by the strip seal manufacturer. Under no circumstances shall any uncoated "locking ears" be permitted in the joint.

- (c) Preformed Elastomeric Compression Seal. Once the anchoring material has fully cured according to specifications, preparation for the placement of the gland can begin.

- (1) Surface Preparation. The steel plates must be cleaned of all foreign material prior to placement of the compression seal. Surface rusting shall be removed and any bare

steel touched up according to Article 506.05. Once the surface preparation has been completed, the steel plates must be kept clean and dry until the compression seal is placed.

- (2) Placement of Elastomeric Compression Seal. The seals shall be installed by suitable hand or machine tools and thoroughly secured in place with the approved adhesive which shall cover both sides of the seals over the full area in contact with the sides of the joint. The adhesive may be applied to the sides of the joint or the seals or both. The seals shall be installed in a compressed condition and shall at all times be below the level of the deck surface as shown on the plans. The seals shall be in one continuous piece for the full length of the joint. The continuous piece for installation shall not have more than one manufacturer's butt splice within its length. If the splice is torn or damaged it shall be repaired, prior to installation, using the manufacturer's recommended adhesive. Temperature limitations of the adhesive, as specified by the manufacturer, shall be observed.
- (d) End Treatment. The end treatment for curbs, parapets and sidewalks shall be as detailed on the plans and as recommended by the manufacturer of the joint system.
- (e) Technical Support. The manufacturer shall supply technical support during surface preparation and the installation of the entire joint system.

Method of Measurement. The completed joint system will be measured in meters (feet) along the centerline of the joint.

Basis of Payment. The expansion joint system(s), measured as specified, will be paid for at the contract unit price per meter (foot) for BRIDGE JOINT SYSTEM (EXPANSION), of the design movement specified. The fixed joint system, measured as specified, will be paid for at the contract unit price per meter (foot) for BRIDGE JOINT SYSTEM (FIXED). These prices shall be payment in full for all labor, materials, equipment, and manufacturer's technical support required for surface preparation and joint installation.